

## Message Text

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65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 PM-04 PA-01 SCS-03

USIE-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 L-03 EB-07

OFA-01 SCA-01 H-02 INR-07 DLOS-04 PRS-01 CG-00

DOT-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 /065 W  
----- 085654

O R 312030Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE ST PETERSBURG, FLA.

AMCONSUL BELEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS; BR

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF FOUR US SHRIMP VESSELS

REF: (A) BELEM 164; (B) RUSER ELTZ TELECONS OCTOBER 30-31

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR, ON OCTOBER 31, SECRETARY MARCEL DIDIER, ACTING CHIEF, FONMIN'S BASIC PRODUCTS DIVISION, MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ABOUT RECENT SHRIMP BOAT SEIZURE:

(A) BOATS HAD BEEN FISHING CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE FROM PORTION OF AGREEMENT AREA NOW OPEN FOR FISHING; (SEIZURE OCCURRED JUST OUTSIDE THE SOUTHERN TRIANGULAR AREA OPEN MARCH - - JULY 31);

(B) SEVERAL US BOATS HAD BEEN SPOTTED OPERATING IN WHAT GOB CONSIDERS PROHIBITED WATERS IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS;

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(C) THE FOUR VESSELS WERE WARNED TWICE THROUGH

SIGNALS BY BRAZILIAN NAVAL PATROLS BEFORE BEING SEIZED.

(D) US CONSUL IN BELEM HAD SHOWN HIMSELF EXTREMELY ALERT, AND APPARENTLY THROUGH CONTACTS WITH OWNERS OF VESSELS, REMARKABLY WELL INFORMED. HE HAD BEEN AWARE OF THE SEIZURES BEFORE HE WAS NOTIFIED BY THE BRAZILIAN NAVY.

(E) FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSTOOD THAT US CONSUL WAS ARRANGING FOR PROMPT PAYMENT OF FINES, PROBABLY TODAY, OCTOBER 31.

(F) UNDER INFORMAL STANDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND BRAZILIAN NAVY, THE US BOATS WOULD BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY UPON PAYMENT OF THE FINES.

2. DIDDIER STRESSED THAT HE THOUGHT THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED TODAY, ASSUMING THE FINES ARE PAID. THE

FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD LATER SEND A DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOR THE RECORD, PROTESTING THE VIOLATION OF PROHIBITED WATERS. GOB WOULD ASK THAT US BOATS BE ADVISED NOT TO OPERATE OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT AREA, TO AVOID COMPLI-CATIONS OF THIS KIND.

3. PURSUANT REFTELECONS B EMBASSY PREPARING DRAFT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOR DEPARTMENT REVIEW PROTESTING SEIZURE OF US VESSELS.  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP DETENTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FISHING BOATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 BELEM 164  
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**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
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06 JUL 2006

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SEIZURE OF FOUR US SHRIMP VESSELS  
**TAGS:** EFIS, BR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006